



264th Medical Battalion

**Unit History
Coat of Arms
Distinctive Unit
Insignia**



**Answering the Call ... Anytime ...
Anywhere**



World War II

The Rise of Amphibious Warfare



■ The Darkest Days of World War II (May 1942)

- The European Continent had Fallen to the Axis Powers
- The Vast Island Empire of the Pacific Dominated by the Japanese
- Absent a land route a Amphibious attack was the only viable option



**Shoulder
Insignia**

■ The Birth of the Engineer Special Brigade (Amphibious)

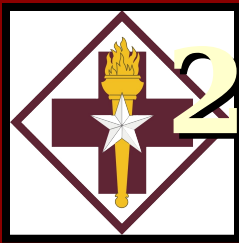
- Engineer Amphibian Command Established (9 May 1942)
- Amphibious Training Center Established at Camp Edwards, MA.
- Army Activates Six Brigades
- The 1st, 5th and 6th ESBs served in the North African, Sicily, Italian and European Campaigns, including the Normandy Invasion
- The 2nd, 3rd and **4th ESBs** served in the Pacific Campaigns, including New Guinea, New Britain, Philippine Islands and Japan.



**Amphibious
Badge**

Amphibian Command Motto: "**Put 'Em
Across**"

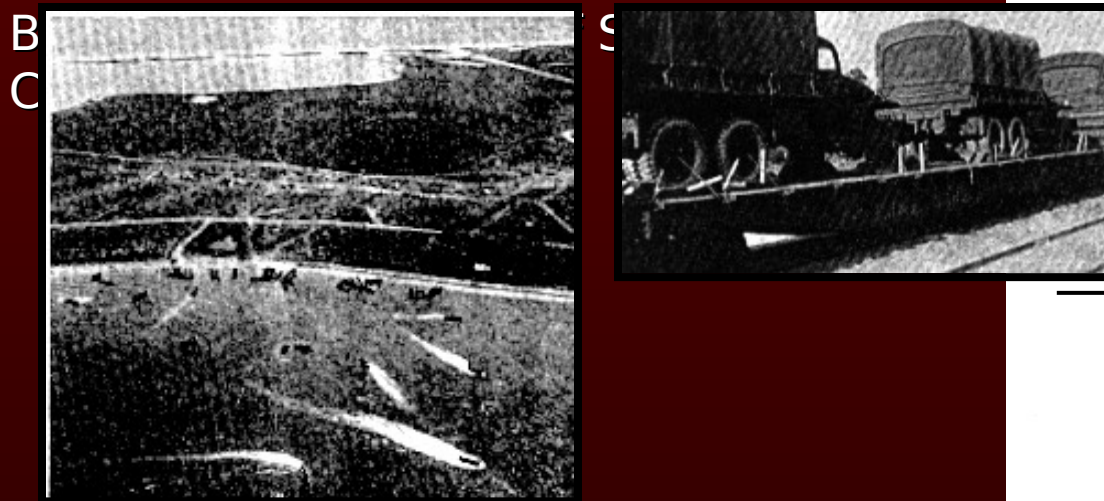
**264th Medical
Battalion**



264th Medical Battalion



- Battalion activated 1 Feb 1943 at Ft Devens, MA. and assigned to the 4th Engineer Special Brigade
- Battalion equips, mans and trains at Camp Edwards, MA for duty in the Pacific
- Battalion relocates to Camp Gordon Johnston, Florida to conduct final preparations for deployment



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February 1, 1943.

General Noce and Colonel Trudeau arrived at Brigade Hq. at 1200. They lunched at Officers' Mess with Brigade and Regt'l. officers of the 4th EAC at 1230. Inclement weather drove activation ceremony, scheduled for Brigade area parade ground, indoors to Post Sports arena. Units marched there. Also, colors and EAC Band. 4th EA Brigade cadre, 112 Officers and 890 EM, formed provisional regt. en masse on floor of arena. General Noce and Col. Trudeau entered arena at 1330. Col. Trudeau stepped onto platform and read activation order as follows: "Hq EAC, Camp Edwards, Mass.) (General Order Number 3, January 20, 1943) 'In compliance with letter The Adjutant General's Office, Washington, D.C., dated January 15, 1943, file: AG 320.2 (1-12-43) OS-I-SF-K, Subject: "Constitution and Activation of 4th Engineer Amphibian Brigade", the 4th Engineer Amphibian Brigade is activated at Fort Devens, Massachusetts, effective February 1, 1943. This Brigade is assigned to the Engineer Amphibian Command and will consist of the following units, each of which is activated:

4TH ENGINEER AMPHIBIAN BRIGADE

Headquarters, (including band)
Headquarters Company
564th Engineer Boat Maintenance Company
264th Medical Battalion
164th Ordnance Platoon
564th Quartermaster Battalion (less RM Co.)
342nd Ordnance MM Co. (Q)
229th Signal Company

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CONFIDENTIAL

Battalion

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

It did. When we started, we were told we would have a reasonable time to train. Instead, early in August, the Brigade entrained for foreign service. Its units landed with the first American echelon in Africa, and all reports we have had from that theatre of operations say that these engineer amphibian units performed admirably.

Recently units of another of our brigades were inspected by an Inspector General prior to their undertaking a very important mission. This inspector, after making a very thorough examination, wrote a letter about one contingent of this brigade. He stated that it was the outstanding combat organization that had come under his scrutiny during the past year.

Recently, a contingent of the Third Brigade (and some of you may have been a part of it) took fifty-six tank lighters on a 2100 mile ocean and inland waterway trip. They had adverse weather all the way, but they brought all boats to their destination in working order and on time.

So, you see, your predecessors, so to speak, have been doing things since June 10. You now have a set of standards, at least, to equal.

I say "at least to equal" because I feel that, with the help of the schools, the training aids and the experienced personnel we now have, you should be better trained in a given time than the other brigades. They did not have the benefit of the present facilities.

That brings us to the principal message which I wish to give you today. You officers and non-coms have been selected to be the leaders of this new brigade. You will soon have 7,000 recruits and the R.T.C. privates arriving for duty. What do these new recruits and what does the United States of America expect from you? Have you ever thought of the situation in that way?

They expect from all of us good management and good leadership-- good management of training time and good management of equipment and facilities furnished, good leadership during the training period and good leadership on the battlefield.

In this war you never know exactly how much time you will have to prepare for battle. It is, therefore, necessary that you make full use of every day.

It is necessary that when you receive your assignments, each and every one of you learn your job quickly, and be ready

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to give good management and good leadership to the new recruits you are about to train. Determine to have high morale and a good team, with every man in it trained to do his part well. Your goal should include having every unit in the Brigade-- each squad, each section, each platoon, each company-- well trained to do its work properly in the Brigade team.

This means hard work and long hours, but I know you can do it.

Great satisfaction will come to you when you reach the field of battle. Then, you will have ability and confidence born of careful training. When you pick up an Infantry division at night to carry it to an enemy shore, the men in that division will have confidence in your ability to put them across. And come hell or high water you will "Put 'em across".

Activation Speech

BG Daniel Noce, 1 Feb 1943

- The Nations Expectations: Good management & leadership
- Urgency of War: Maximize every training opportunity
- Teamwork: High morale and proficiency in accomplishing the mission
- Confidence in battle comes from careful training
- Come hell or high water you will "Put 'Em Across"

**264th Medical
Battalion**

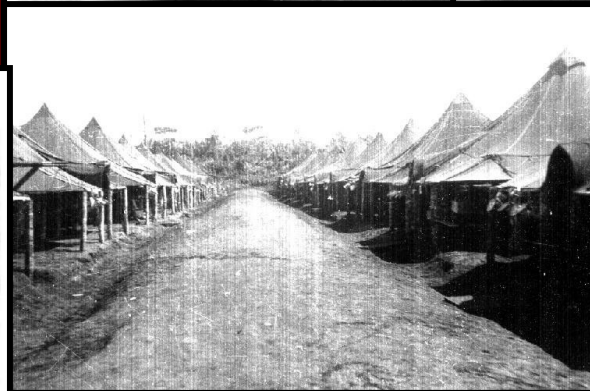


264th Medical Battalion



Deployed to Pacific theater April 1944
with assault landings in;

- Luzon
- Northern Solomon's
- Bismarck Archipelago
- Occupation of Japan.

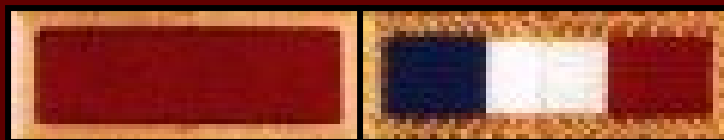


**264th Medical
Battalion**



264th Medical Battalion

HONORS



Meritorious Unit Commendation
Philippine Presidential Unit Citation



PUT 'EM ACROSS



**264th Medical
Battalion**



264th Medical Battalion



- Battalion inactivated in Japan, 31 Jan 1946
- Activated 23 Aug 2005, on Fort Sam Houston, TX; assigned to the 32d Medical Brigade. Command and control of 900 cadre personnel
- 21 FEB 06 - 187th Medical Battalion/264th Medical trainees



RESTRICTED
HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH ARMY
United States Army
Office of the Commanding General
APO 343

AO 321 (Med) (FE) **EXTRACT** 17 January 1946

SUBJECT: Letter Order No. 1-34 (Inactivation of 264th Medical Battalion).

TO : Commanding General, 4th Engineer Special Brigade, APO 713.

1. Pursuant to instructions contained in War Department Radio WGL 32771, dated 29 December 1945, AFPAC Radio ZI 43009, dated 3 January 1946, and under provisions of War Department Readjustment Regulations 1-6, the following listed unit will be inactivated at Nagoya, Japan effective 31 January 1946:

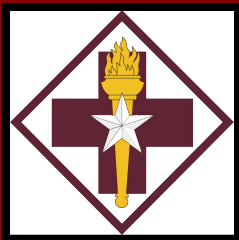
264th Medical Battalion

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL HALL:

/s/ Ward W. Conquest
WARD W. CONQUEST
Colonel, AGO
Adjutant General

REPRODUCED: Headquarters, 264th Medical Battalion, APO 660 (Osaka, Honshu)
31 January 1946.

**264th Medical
Battalion**

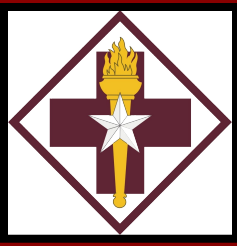


264th Medical Battalion **COLORS**



MOTTO: Answering the Call ... Anytime,
Anywhere

**264th Medical
Battalion**



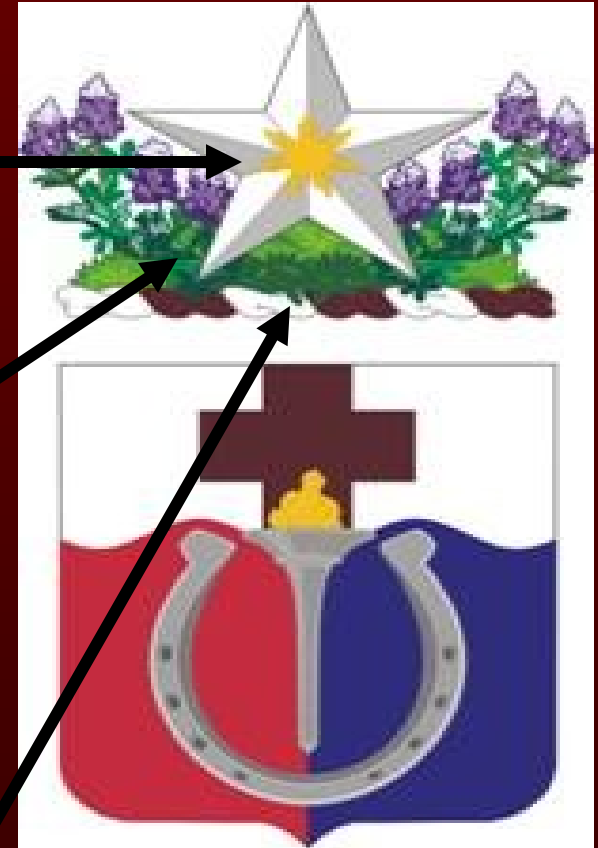
264th Medical Battalion

Coat of Arms

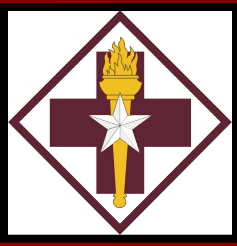
(Crest)



- The MULLET (star) represents the Lone Star of Texas and is surmounted by a sunburst symbolizing the Philippine Unit Commendation in World War II.
- The sprigs of bluebonnets are another symbol of the unit's home of Texas and in conjunction with the Vert (green) alludes to the mission support of land-based soldiers.
- The TORSE (a wreath of colors) Argent (white) and Sanguine (maroon) are traditional colors of the Medical Corps.



**264th Medical
Battalion**



264th Medical Battalion

Coat of Arms

(Shield)



- The triparted shield: Argent, Gules, and Azure, represents the Texas flag and the unit's home.
- The Sanguine (maroon) Medical Cross on an Argent (white) field is a traditional symbol of the Medical Corps and the activities of healing and caring.
- The wavy line on the chief symbolizes the amphibious nature of the 4th Engineer Special Brigade, which the 264th Medical Battalion was assigned to support during World War II.
- The torch represents the battalion's instructional mission as part of the U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School and the surrounding horseshoe represents the earliest horse-drawn ambulances.



**264th Medical
Battalion**

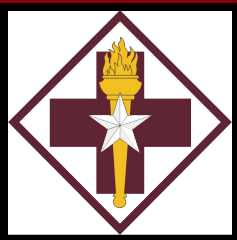


264th Medical Battalion

Distinguished Unit Insignia



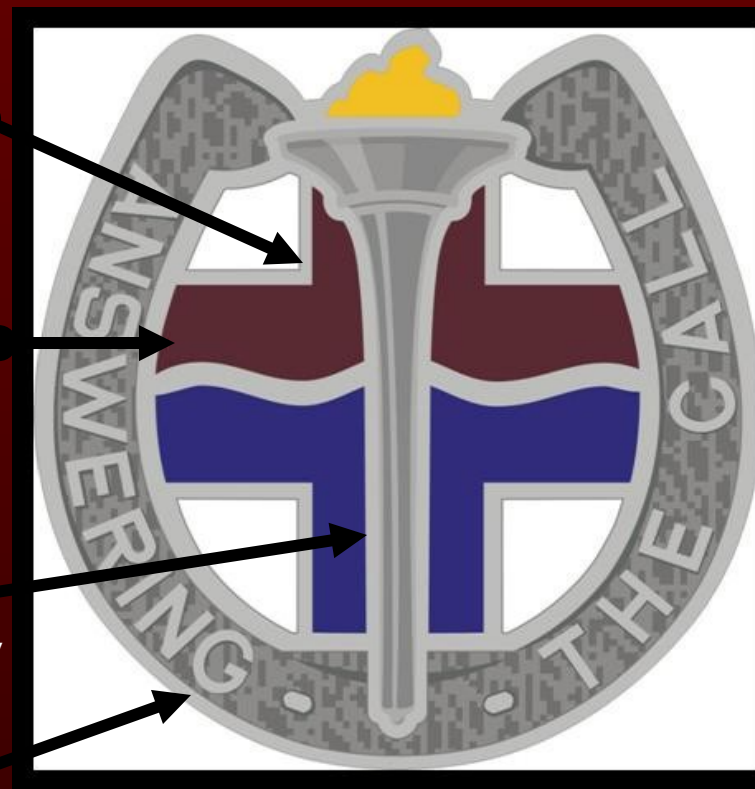
264th Medical
Battalion



264th Medical Battalion

Distinguished Unit Insignia

- The sanguine (maroon) and blue Medical Cross divided by a wavy line alludes to the amphibious nature of the unit's mission and the 4th Engineer Special Brigade during World War II, which the 264th Medical Battalion was assigned to support.
- The medical cross is also an emblem associated with the Medical Corps and the activities of healing and caring.
- The torch represents the battalion's instructional mission as part of the U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School.
- The overall shape of the device is a horseshoe which represents the unit's Texas home and earliest horse-drawn ambulances.



**264th Medical
Battalion**



264th Medical Battalion



Motto

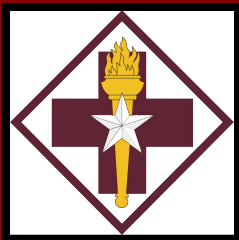
Answering the Call: Symbolizes the battalion's fundamental mission to answer the call of wounded Soldiers on the battlefield. We do this by providing the operational Army with ready, trained and disciplined medical Soldiers who possess the physical and mental courage to put themselves in harms way to come to the aid of another.

Anytime ... Anywhere: Is our declaration that we stand ready to place ourselves in harms way to come to the aid of another.... anytime ... anywhere ... no matter what.

On 1 Feb 1943, BG Daniel Noce commanded the newly activated 264th Medical Battalion to "Come hell or high water you will "Put 'Em Across." The tradition continues:

Answering the Call ... Anytime ... Anywhere.

**264th Medical
Battalion**



264th Medical Battalion

(Colors & Distinctive Unit Insignia)



Motto: Answering The Call

**Reply: Anytime ...
Anywhere**



**264th Medical
Battalion**